

1. (Once amended) A switching circuit to linearly conduct current between a source and a load, the circuit comprising:

a switching device coupled between the source and the load, the switching device having a conductive state in which a first portion of the current is conducted between the source and the load during a first phase of operation, the first phase of operation dependent on the magnitude of the current; and

a current steering circuit coupled between the source and the load and in parallel with the switching device, the current steering circuit having a conductive state in which a second portion of the current is conducted between the source and the load during a second phase of operation in which the magnitude of the current is below a non-zero threshold value.